

Hospitals and Institutions West Area Committee report

August 15th, 2010

H and I west meets every third Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at S.N.L., which is on the corner of Overland and Vista in Boise, Id

As of July 17 our contributions are sitting at \$7809.61. \$1579.33 is pink can contributions. Many home groups have decided to pass a pink can for H and I contributions. This money when donated tagged as pink can because it can only be used for literature.

As of June 17th, there is \$10,888.89 worth of literature in storage. The literature inventory includes Big books, 12x12, daily reflections, many pamphlets, over 500 grapevines, correction and treatment kits, and we also have most of all literature in Spanish. The storage is well organized and everything has been stamped donated by H and I. A special thanks to our Literature chair Lauren T., for all her hard work.

Let me start by apologizing for our lack of updates to the H and I west website. I personally have not been getting my reports to the web servant, and our current treasurer is not computer literate. All of our treasurer reports have been hand written. He has asked for help and will soon be submitting his report in a digital format. I have asked all officers to submit written reports so we can be held accountable. I hope that starting this month our website will begin to be updated.

Now with that out of the way, let me share on our recent H and I BBQ. The BBQ was held in June at Veterans Memorial Park. There were about 525 food tickets sold, and the BBQ raised 1865.66 for H and I west. This money is not included in the before mentioned contribution total. It is always nice to raise money for H and I, but the success of this years BBQ comes from the hundreds of fellow AA's who come together to stay sober and to show their support for H and I.

Meetings are still being brought into the various hospitals and treatment centers thanks to Tammy B. and all the volunteers on her committee. Intermountain hospital has 5 meetings a week on the adult side and at least one meeting a week on the juvenile side. The newly opened Allumbaugh house has been getting many volunteers from the nearby home groups. The average stay is only about 7 days because it is only a detox center. Yesterday I ran into a gentleman who came through the Allumbaugh house less than a month ago. He mentioned that a volunteer from AA spent a lot of time with him after a meeting. He can't explain what happened, just that something in him changed and he is glad to have made it to the fellowship.

Bridging the Gap is another service entity that is doing some great work, thanks to Shane H. and all the volunteers on his committee. Most of all the work for Shane has been coming from Ada county Jail and the surrounding correctional facilities. The P O Box gets new mail often and Shane has been doing a good job of handling all requests in a timely manner. The last thing we want is for someone to ask for help and to not hear anything in return. Tammy and other Volunteers doing treatment work are assisting individuals who request a bridge on the treatment side. There just isn't enough time to send correspondence back and forth.

This committee has decided to send Shane to the 20th annual Bridging the Gap conference in Bloomington, MN. We have also decided to help get one representative from the Snake River sub-committee to the conference.

Corrections is the third service entity with in our committee and it needs the most assistance. Mike K. has been working real hard at keeping the current meetings going while attempting to get new volunteers. At our Prisons there is an AA meeting every day but only once or twice a week are they attended by a volunteer from the outside. In order to get approved one must first submit an application, which can be found on our website, then they must attend an orientation class put on by the dept of corrections. These classes are only held quarterly. At the last class Mike was very excited because 8 new volunteers were going to get oriented. Only one showed up which means the rest have to wait until October. We definitely need some committed volunteers to help Mike and any other volunteer who continue to carry the message into correctional facilities.

Lastly I find it necessary to report on all the work Snake River has been doing. The Snake River Sub-committee have created their own website, a link for which is found on area 18 website. They have incorporated a Bridge the Gap presentation with their CPC/PI presentation, which appears to be very informative. They continue to take meetings into many of the various jails and the Snake River correctional facility. I would also like to mention that the Snake River Chairperson, John P., and treasurer Rob. H. have consistently made it to the H and I west business meeting and have always given a very thorough report. The Snake River Sub-committee has been a wonderful addition to H and I west.

Thanks to all those people and home groups who continue to support H and I west.
Thanks for letting me be of service!
Mike T.